

## Call for Social Action

—Eloise Magenheim

**Draconianism. Parochialism. Viciousness.** You're not alone if the current political climate leaves you shivering in a state of disbelief, isolation, anger or despair.

There is a positive side to economic and political crises: they bring new opportunities for organizing. The time for coalition building couldn't be clearer or more urgent.

The Social Action committee wants you. We want to meet regularly to discuss, debate, organize and support each other. We want to build a movement within the synagogue and then reach out to other progressive Jewish and non-Jewish groups in the Bay Area, but it can't happen without you.

The Social Action committee was very active in the struggle against Prop. 187. We did educational outreach to more than 2,000 people at the Jewish Film Festival. We were also present at all the major demonstrations against Prop. 187. Each time, we were the only activists out as Jews.

After we celebrate our liberation from Egypt and uphold our long tradition of welcoming the stranger, please join Rabbi Kahn and the Social Action committee as we continue to organize to maintain and expand our freedom to be our full selves.

The next meeting will be in our Library on Saturday, April 22 at 12:30 pm. Hope to see you there.

## Adult Bar Mitzvah

**Mark Bower**, a relatively new member of CSZ who has entered into congregational life with energy and enthusiasm, will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 8 at the morning service, beginning at 10:30 am. All members of the congregation and community are invited to join Mark in celebration of this simchah.

## Attention all Toddlers and Preschoolers!

**Prepare yourselves for our Sunday, April 9 Pre-school Pesach Party!** Come to CSZ at 10:30 am and be ready to sing!

While you are writing this date in your calendar, why don't you also check Friday, April 28 at 7 pm? That's the date of our next Tot Shabbat here at CSZ. Infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers, their parents and friends are all welcome.

For more information, call the office.

## Spirituality and Sunshine

**Sixty** of us in the CSZ family, ranging in age from six months to 73 years, spent a wonderful, sunshine filled weekend at Camp Swig in February, exploring and celebrating the spiritual aspects of our lives. In large and small groups, we explored the meaning and the expression of spirituality, and of course, we did all the usual good things too — dancing, singing, schmoozing, and eating.

One highlight of the weekend was the moving and original Shabbat service which began in camp and proceeded to the Holocaust Memorial, with singing, meditation, and Torah study. For many, another highlight was on Saturday night, beginning with team games and concluding with a triumph of a campfire. For others, highlights included hiking, reading, meditating, or visiting in the patio where the little ones played in the warm sunshine.

We came back with so much: new spiritual resources and personal growth and, in a tangible expression of our time together, a quilt, made up of squares created from materials and themes chosen by each of us to express our experience together. Special thanks to Judith Cohen and Claire Rappoport for arranging a rewarding escape that we all hope will be available again soon.

**April 15-22, 1995**

## Passover 5755

**The** synagogue office will close at 2 pm on Friday, April 14 to allow celebration of the first Seder. *We will not be having a Shabbat service on that Friday evening.*

**Shabbat Services** will be held on Saturday, April 15 at 10:30 am. If you are commemorating a yahrzeit, the name of your loved one will be read before the *kaddish* at this service.

**CSZ's Seder** will be held, as always, on the second night of Passover, which this year falls on Saturday, April 15. *Reservations must be received by Wednesday, April 5.* Space is limited and is allocated on a "first come" basis, with CSZ members receiving priority. If you have not sent in your reservation form, please do so immediately or we will not be able to accommodate you. The Seder will take place at the Fort Mason Officers' Club, where we have enjoyed ourselves in a surprisingly haimish atmosphere. The food is good and the price reasonable. We always need a few volunteers to help set up for the Seder. If you wish to volunteer, please arrive about an hour prior to the beginning of the Seder. Call Shirley Liberman 707/829-8876 if you can assist us.

## Yizkor Service

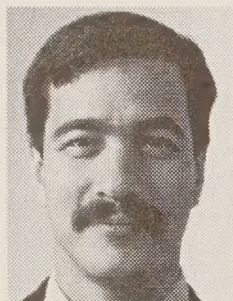
It is a Jewish tradition to observe Yizkor on each of the *Shalosh P'galim*, the pilgrimage holidays: Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot. This service of remembrance is customarily held on the concluding day of Passover. Please join us on Saturday, April 22 at 3:30 pm for a Yizkor memorial service, followed by Torah Study and Havdalah.



## Matzah: To Eat or Not to Eat...?

*You shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread—at the set time in the month of Aviv, for in it you went forth from Egypt...[Exodus 23:15]*

Passover has always been — and remains — my favorite holiday in the Jewish year. When asked about “missing” Christmas, I have never thought that Chanukah is an adequate substitute — but Passover certainly is! My preference is not just a personal one — the Exodus from Egypt is the critical turning point in the



Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Torah’s view of history and, along with creation and Torah, the central symbol of the Jewish religious tradition. Passover occurs on the fifteenth day (which, in our lunar calendar, is always a full moon) of the *first* month — time itself, as it were, begins with the Exodus. The Passover celebration, in its most ancient roots, commemorates spring and the rebirth of life it brings. In later Jewish tradition, the Exodus from Egypt came to speak of the promise of future redemption: “We await a redemption more lasting, and more splendid, than any of the past.” In Hebrew, the Passover holiday has four names: *Chag Ha-Aviv* — the Festival of Spring; *Chag Ha-Matzot* — the festival of Unleavened Bread; *Chag Ha-Pesach* — the Festival of Passover; and *Z’man Cherutainu* — the Season of Our Freedom.

*In every generation, each person should consider themselves as if they had been present and gone forth from Egypt. [Passover Haggadah]*

The tradition does not ask us to pretend that “we were there” but rather to think of ourselves *as if* we had participated. What is the difference? Whenever I watch an historical reenactment, I always find myself as an observer, sitting on the side, peeking in. At the Seder, we do not pretend to be with our ancestors in Egypt; we do imagine the import of experiencing the Exodus. In Martin Buber’s words: “It is not a feast of pious remembrance, but of the ever-current contemporaneity of that which once befell. Every celebrating generation becomes united with the first generation and with all those that have followed.” The description of the

degradation and slavery of Egypt is the best possible argument to the oft-asked question: “Is the Bible true?” What people would choose to fantasize about slavery in the past? The Torah and the Haggadah emphasize our people’s enslavement in order that we might appreciate the sweetness of freedom. The Seder’s ritual places symbols of slavery and freedom side-by-side: salt water and parsley; *maror* and matzah.

*You shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your ranks out of the land of Egypt.. No leaven shall be found in your houses for seven days... [Exodus 12:17, 19]*

There are two separate commandments regarding bread during Passover. There is an affirmament commandment — we are obligated to eat matzah at the Passover Seder. And, there is a prohibition against eating anything with leaven throughout the entire festival. There are many allegorical explanations of the prohibition of leaven during Passover. I believe that the commandment is intended to focus our attention on the matzah. At the Seder, the matzah is the central symbol — and the commandment to eat matzah is only for the Seder meal itself (as a reminder of the night of the Exodus). Through removing all other bread products from our homes for the duration of the holiday, the matzah’s dual representation of past liberation and future passage is kept present before us: “This is the bread of affliction which our ancestors ate in the Land of Egypt. May all who are hungry come and eat! This year we still know bondage: next year may all be free!”

With best wishes for a festive, inspiring and liberating Passover,

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Save the Date

**O**ur Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 14 at 3 pm. Watch your mail for the packet and mark your calendars now.

## Women’s Chavurah Goes to the Jewish Museum

Sunday April 23 at 11:00 am, CSZ women (kids too!) are invited to join us at the Jewish Museum, 121 Steuart St. (just south of Market in the Jewish Federation Building) as we view an exhibit of six women artists who explore “Issues of Immigration, Assimilation, and Identity.” (See last month’s *Forward*, or the March 2 issue of the *Northern California Jewish Bulletin*, for details.) Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for students and seniors. Take BART or the Muni Metro to Embarcadero Station; also, parking is not difficult on Sundays. We will meet outside the museum — if you’re running late, just look for us inside. Afterwards we will brunch nearby at Delancey Street, a moderately-priced restaurant benefiting the Delancey Street Foundation — and praised for its waffles! If you wish to join us for brunch, please RSVP to Dona (864-5432) before April 14.

## Senior Chavurah

Some senior members of the congregation have expressed interest in forming an affinity group. The group would consist of members facing the prospect of the so-called golden years meeting to discuss the handling of problems and possible joys of this time in our lives. Social activities, discussion groups, synagogue involvement, etc. might develop, with a more definite schedule of events. Age restriction would be from Jack Benny’s 39+ to the unadmittable. Contact David Weinstein if interested (346-4034).

## HIV Spiritual Support

### Shabbat Dinner

CSZ is sponsoring a catered Shabbat dinner for CSZ members living with HIV on Friday, April 7, at 6 pm. If you are living with HIV, or are the partner of a person with HIV, please join us for kiddush, candles, shmoozing and a catered Shabbat meal. The dinner will be hosted at the home of a CSZ member. If you have any questions, or to RSVP (and receive directions), call the synagogue office by April 5.



## Pesach — Who Deserves Plagues?

—Nina Wouk for the Ritual Committee

During a traditional Seder, when we recite the names of the ten plagues the Egyptians suffered, we ceremonially mourn each plague by removing ten drops from each cup. We also sing happily of God's goodness even if it consists only of punishing the Egyptians and killing their first-born. Should we feel sorry for the Egyptians or not?

The Egyptians symbolize all the peoples among whom Jews have been a minority. We have changed our minds repeatedly for generations about whether we can trust our neighbors, largely depending on how they have treated us. In the story, this uncertainty leads to varying opinions about the justice of the plagues.

Some interpreters explain that all Egyptians deserved to suffer. In one version of the story, hatred of foreigners led to a popular uprising that forced

Pharaoh to enslave the Israelites as the price of remaining on the throne. Fear of persecution by rioting Egyptians is said to have made Moses ask Pharaoh for permission to take the people into the desert to worship unmolested. In another story, Egyptian men of all classes rejoiced to hear that Jewish boys were to be killed, leaving a generation of Jewish women "available." Others say that even the poor who didn't benefit from the Israelites' forced labor, were pleased to see someone worse off than themselves.

Some midrashim draw pathetic pictures of a people whose lives have been ruined by their ruler's bad decisions. After the plague of cattle disease destroys the supply of meat and milk, and the hail ruins crops, Pharaoh's stubbornness brings on the plague of locusts. The Egyptians greet this plague joyfully, exclaiming, "Now we

have something to eat!"

Another midrash explains that the Egyptians willingly gave gold and silver to the freed slaves out of gratitude: their Israelite neighbors had always warned them when a plague was coming, giving them a chance to protect themselves.

Jews have lived side by side with other people for thousands of years, sometimes in friendship, sometimes in terror. The stories about the Egyptians and the plagues reflect these generations of experience. We rejoice in every deliverance from our enemies, but at the same time we never entirely forget that those enemies aren't monolithic. Because every group contains some decent people, and every person some decency, we can observe each Seder in hope of the final liberation, which will allow the good in us all to flourish.

## Start spreading the news...

New York City is *the* place to be in July 1995 for the  
14th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews!

*When:* Thursday–Sunday, July 27–30, 1995

*Where:* Sheraton New York Hotel, Seventh Avenue at 53rd Street, Manhattan

*Who:* Hundreds of other lesbian and gay Jews from around the world, and *you*

To get a registration packet call the Congregation Sha'ar Zahav office—

***Save the date! You won't want to miss it.***

To find out more about the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations, contact Lane Schickler (255-9679).





## High Holidays Approach

Erev Rosh Hashanah falls on Sunday evening, September 24 this year and Kol Nidre is on Tuesday evening, October 3. Members will receive forms for ticket reservations in the June *Gaily Forward*. With the growth of membership in the congregation, tickets for guests will be less readily available this year than in the past. Tickets will be required for overflow rooms and for daytime services.

If you are not yet a member of CSZ but have been thinking about joining, this is an excellent reason for submitting your application for membership *now*. If you are already a member, bear in mind that your '94-'95 dues must be paid in full and your pledge and first quarter '95-'96 dues also paid in order to be eligible for High Holiday tickets.

## Jewish Women's Conference Planners Seek Workshop Proposals and Ideas

Plans for the 1995 Jewish Women's Conference are underway and the coordinators are seeking ideas from Bay Area women and prospective workshop presenters to help shape the day's workshops.

In addition, volunteers are needed to serve on committees and handle a wide variety of tasks to ensure a successful day.

Titled *Celebrating Diversity, Creating Community*, the day-long event is scheduled for Sunday, November 5 at the San Francisco Fashion Center. CSZ member Susan Tubbesing is on the Steering Committee for the conference and other congregation members are already working on various committees.

To submit proposals or ideas, or to volunteer for a committee, contact the Women's Conference by phone (777-3077); by FAX (495-4897); or write to Jewish Women's Conference, 121 Steuart St., 5th floor, San Francisco, CA 94105.

## On Unity In Diversity

So I've been reading this book about the haredim, the ultra-orthodox, in Israel, written by a Jewish cultural anthropologist. (*Defenders of the Faith*, by Samuel Heilman.) In many ways, of course, what is so striking is how different their lives are from ours. Each moment of their lives is informed and directed by strict religious and cultural requirements. To them, Reform Jews are goyim, and the notion of gay and lesbian Jews, a contradiction in terms. To us, they seem an artifact from the past, a subculture only distantly related to us.

On the other hand, there are some striking similarities to our own concerns and community. The author describes two related trends in haredi culture that speak to some concerns I think I have heard expressed in our own circles.

First, in discussing the competition for members between various haredi sects, the author remarks on the tendency of haredim to want to belong to the largest and most established of the sects. This is in part a response to a haredi perception that they are a minority amidst an unsympathetic majority.

The desire to be part of something really big is a means of individual empowerment. Nothing so much gives members of a minority a way of disregarding their numerical weakness than to find themselves in a large assembly. To stand in a grand building with hundreds or thousands of one's fellow members, to feel oneself swallowed up in the crowd, or to encounter one's group's outposts and fellow members in many places confers upon the insider a sense of belonging to something larger than life and larger than him (or her) self, a sense that he (or she) is not isolated.

This rings true to those of us who are gay or lesbian, thinking back to demonstrations, parades, women's music concerts, men's gatherings, and other moving and defining moments of coming together.



Tiela Chalmers

A related trend among haredim is the strong desire to separate themselves from mainstream society. The author heard a d'rash in which the rebbe explained the similarity between the mezuzah and the lights we kindle at Chanukah. The mezuzah on our doors separates and thus protects us from the rest of the world. The light of Chanukah candles separates light from dark. And the oil:

'Oil does not mix with any other liquid. No matter how much one tries to blend the oil with other liquids, it always remains separate.' The oil, he went on to explain, represents the Jewish people who, no matter how hard some may try to mix them with others, will always remain separate, like the oil.

This has some interesting implications for us. Certainly, it speaks to concerns we have as Jews about maintaining our identity. It also speaks to our issues with coming out, both as Jews and as gays and lesbians. If we will always be truly separate, can we, or should we, try to hide? And what about the efforts of some to make others treat us "just like everybody else"; is this, then, impossible and counterproductive?

Here, also, is the fear faced by many Jews, and many gay men and lesbians. Despite expressions of friendliness from others, in the Holocaust it was mostly the Jews, and the gays, who were killed. We were, despite some efforts at assimilation, still basically different and separate. So, we sometimes feel, not only is there no point to assimilation, but we cannot trust those others, who can never truly stand with us.

Like the haredim, we too yearn to be part of a larger assembly, and feel essentially separate from others. The sense of ultimate separateness is the root of some of the strong feeling connected with the role of the non-Jew in our synagogue. We are afraid and suspicious: sure, you stand with us now, but what about if things get bad for us? And some members have this same fear about losing the gay and lesbian identity of Sha'ar Zahav. As more heterosexual people join, we fear that these allies, so friendly now, may not stand by us in troubled times. Indeed, we also fear the bisexual. We

*Continued on page 6*



## Celebrate the 18th Birthday of CSZ and Rabbi Kahn's 10th Anniversary

### 18/10 — Overture to the Future

Planning is underway for the celebration of our חן (chai) birthday and the marking of Rabbi Yoel Kahn's first decade as our rabbi. The festivities will occur during the weekend of May 19-21.

A special commemorative service at 7:30 pm on Friday, May 19, at Congregation Emanu-El, will honor people who were instrumental to our founding. Paid childcare will be available; reservations need to be in the office by May 1.

On Saturday, May 20, from 8 pm to midnight, we'll be dressing up and celebrating at Town Hall, Delancey Street Foundation. Are you ready to glide across the dance floor as we share our pride, celebrating these milestones? Whether you want to fox trot, shake your groove thing, or do the hora, our DJ will set the mood. There will be a substantial hors d'oeuvres buffet followed by a dessert buffet, generously donated by Sweet Inspiration on Market Street. A "no host" bar will be available.

Entertainment will also include the premiere of the first CSZ archive interview video and a performance by our own inimitable Klezmer band.

The cost of the gala is \$28. If you wish to invite friends who are not members,

you will be able to do so when you order tickets for yourself. Prices for guests will be noted on the invitation. We are welcoming additional contributions to underwrite the event so that all members can afford to attend.

Members who wish to attend but need a subsidy should call Lea at the office by May 1. Regretfully, childcare is not available at the gala.

On Sunday, May 21, we'll round out the anniversary weekend with a family picnic celebrating CSZ's religious school, Kadimah, and all of the children of CSZ. Everyone is invited (with or without children). The picnic will be held from noon to 3 pm at Douglass Park (26th and Douglass Streets) where there is a great playground and lots of open grassy space. Don't forget to bring a picnic lunch.

Invitations with further information will be mailed at the end of the first week in April. If you are interested in helping to stuff the invitation envelopes on April 6 at CSZ, please contact Allan Gold (929-9524).

Circle the May 19-21 weekend on your calendars and join the "18/10" celebration.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Birthdays

### April

1	Barney Ugarte
3	Judith Green
4	Linda Michels
7	Judy Macks
7	Gordon Osser
7	J. A.
11	Kama Golden
12	Kathy Simon
12	Devra Felder Noily
13	Richard Goldwasser
14	Amy Clark
14	K. H.
14	Lyssa Friedman
15	Nancy Sadlier
15	Susan Stahl
16	Peter Barnes
16	Robert Gordon
16	Jeanette Nichols
17	Keisel Ludden-Moses
17	Diana Buchbinder
19	Alita Rosenfeld
19	Martin Spector
19	Sandy Meyers
20	Leonard Brill
23	Eli Weinstein
23	Sara Haber
23	Leslie Halpern
24	Samuel Austin Lowinger
24	Susan Fraimow-Wong
25	Brian Ellis
26	Andre Fournier
26	Fran Kipnis
26	Sarah Comerchero
27	Chris Camp
27	Judith Rosenberg
28	Frances Rotolo
29	Shirley Liberman
30	Orren Perlman
30	Judith Klain
30	Lynn Eden
30	Henry Mach

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## March Va'ad Report

—Cheryl M. Bryan, Recorder

Rabbi Kahn began the meeting with a light-hearted note about the meaning of Purim. This is a time to be joyful. Throughout the rest of the year, many of us wear costumes which help us pass, or cover who we really are, as a means of coping.

The committee making the video for the 18/10 celebration reported that they had experienced some technical difficulties, resulting in the need to do a retake. The original video will still be used for the archives, but the retake will be developed for sale to the community. The Va'ad expressed its appreciation to the committee for all of the extra hours they have devoted to this project due to the technical problems.

The committee working on the new Haggadah reported that the project may not be completed in time for this year's Pesach. The Va'ad encouraged

the committee to continue their work and thanked them for all of their efforts.

High Holiday services continue to be very popular. Last year we exceeded the legal limit of people allowed in the overflow rooms as well as the sanctuary. The Va'ad approved a proposal which will now require tickets for the overflow rooms for High Holiday evening services.

The remainder of the meeting focused on the proposed 1995-96 budget. The Va'ad expressed gratitude to Treasurer Mike Zimmerman and the Finance Committee for preparing the proposed budget. A number of options were considered to help balance the upcoming budget. These will be presented at the Congregational Meeting scheduled for May 14.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm with a sleepy rendition of Oseh Shalom.



## National Social Action Conference

The Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism will host its national conference — the Consultation on Conscience — in Washington, DC, from April 30–May 2, 1995.

The Consultation on Conscience, held every two years, is the largest and most significant national Jewish conference focusing on political and social action issues. The three-day conference will include plenary sessions addressed by major political figures, briefing and political analyses on major world events, and workshops on skills-building and lobbying techniques.

Past Consultation speakers include Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the Dalai Lama, Pat Robertson, Senators Ted Kennedy, George Mitchell, Tom Harkin and Daniel Patrick Moynihan, and Representatives Jack Kemp, Barney Frank and Charles Schumer.

Topics to be explored include: church-state relations, economic justice, environmental issues, Israel, foreign-policy issues, welfare reform, and more.

Hundreds of rabbis, educators, social action committee members, sisterhood/brotherhood members, and other interested congregation members will converge on Capitol Hill for this extraordinary event.

If you would like to represent CSZ at this exceptional conference or would like additional information, call Mike Rankin at 510/273-7331, or contact the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism at 2027 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036, 202/387-2800.

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Bruce Barishman  
Barbara Cymrot  
Dafna Wu  
Ruby Cymrot-Wu  
Isa Cymrot-Wu  
Andrea Greenberg  
Alexander Wellins  
Jacob Wellins  
Anne Ludden-Moses  
Kiesel Ludden-Moses  
Callian Ludden-Moses  
Michael Shaps  
Susan Sturner

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

## Onegs

These generous people sponsored onegs during the month of March:

3 CSZ, in honor of Joe Hample.  
10 Phyllis & George Mintzer, in honor of their birthdays.  
17 Rafi Hoch & Seth Frohman, in honor of the naming of Claire Hannah Hoch-Frohman.

## President's Column

*Continued from page 4*

try to insist that they really are included within the gay and lesbian labels. Their insistence on their own identity affirmatively separates and distinguishes them from the gay and lesbian community. We respond: if you are truly one of us, then you cannot really separate out, and if in fact you are different and *can* separate, then you are not truly one of us (and would not stand with us if catastrophe struck).

Our fear is not limited, however, to what might happen under terrible circumstances. We also fear that the presence of more diverse kinds of people will dilute the power of the "larger assembly," that sense of being empowered, and a part of something larger than ourselves. If the non-Jews, and the heterosexuals, and bisexuals, are all there too (not to mention the children, the disabled, the Sephardim and Mizrahi, etc.), then we lose that feeling that we are all the same here, numerous and powerful.

But think back to a powerful moment of assembly at Sha'ar Zahav: perhaps the culmination of Neilah at High Holidays, or those moments on Yom Kippur when we all sang Avinu Malkeinu with such feeling. That was more complex than just a feeling of gay and lesbian Jewish empowerment. Part of what was so powerful about those moments *was* our diversity. At that moment, our congregation, with its heterosexual and bisexual members, its non-Jewish members and friends, its children, disabled, people of different cultures all stood together, sang the same songs, swelled with the same emotions. That is the miracle, and the power, of our congregation.

**READY FOR PASSOVER?  
WE CAN GET YOU PREPARED!**

**CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV  
GIFT SHOP**

NOW LOCATED IN THE ONEG ROOM  
open Friday nights 7:30-8:05 pm  
or for an Appointment call the CSZ office  
(415) 861-6932

Remember to bring  
canned goods and other  
non-perishable food to  
Friday night services for  
the AIDS Food Bank



## Ma'ayan Campaign Vision Statement

These are the programs that will be made possible by your contributions to this year's Ma'ayan Campaign:

### **Jewish Education for Adults and Families**

Your contribution develops and presents educational retreats for adults and families including shabbatot, all-day sessions, and short-term series, both at CSZ and in members' homes.

### **Jewish-Based Support for People Living with Illness**

Your contribution helps pay for ongoing and one-time support groups and classes — all with a Jewish focus —

for people living with illness.

### **B'nai Mitzvah Activities for All Ages**

Your contribution makes possible an on-going b'nai mitzvah training program for both adults and young people. At present, this important work depends on overworked volunteers.

### **Social Programs with a Jewish Flavor**

Your contribution encourages new and different social activities: classes for Jewish cooking and folkdancing, theater and dance parties, chavurot, and who know what else! Our new social programs will be sensitive to the needs of our various demographic groups from the 20-

some things to the well-seasoned and including singles, couples, and parents.

### **Publishing our Unique Liturgy and Rituals**

Your contribution makes it possible to update and create prayerbooks and ritual guidebooks that reflect our widely-praised efforts to expand and encourage the use of inclusive liturgy.

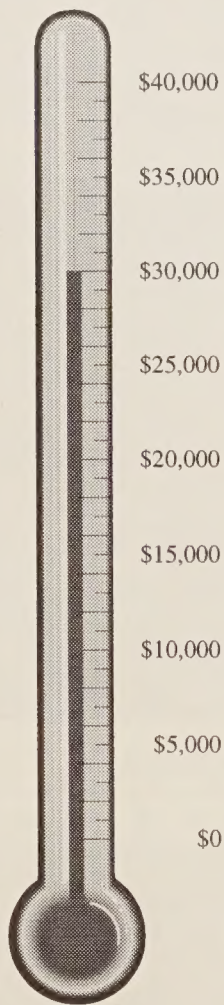
### **Documenting our History**

Your contribution initiates oral history and archives projects to collect and make accessible the memories and physical memorabilia of our unique experience.

As of March 9

## Pledges and Gifts to the Ma'ayan Campaign

<i>Lev Zahav (Heart of Gold) (\$1,000+)</i>	<i>Kesef (Silver) (\$250 - \$499)</i>	Lyssa Friedman & Daphne Stuart Roslyn Fuerman	Ellen Gierson Susan Gelmis Judith Graboyes Trudi & Stephen Hauptman Arnie Jackson Batya Kalis Merry Luskin Laura S. Lowe Theodora Mauro Nancy Meyer & Marilyn O'Keeffe Lisa Niver Lolma Olson & Beth Reed Paul Quin Claire Rappoport Alita Rosenfeld & Kate Sharp Margaret Rossoff Lane Schickler Jeff Sherman David Schnur Judy Schwartz & Carolyn Pines Michele Sullivan Ed Tanovitz Rob Tat Dana Vinicoff Rachel Wahba Lonnie Weiss Marcy Whitebook	<i>Ma'ayanot (All Other Gifts)</i>
Jeff Forman & Paul Nemrow Walter Leiss Jerry Rosenstein Gary Sokol Ron Wilmot	Anonymous Diana Buchbinder Tiela Chalmers Ellie Cohen & Greta Miskatel Lynn Eden & Ruth Schoenbach Steve Elman Gail Friedlander Jonathan Funk Bill Goldstein Dvora Honigstein Stephan Howard Rabbi Yoel Kahn & Dan Bellm Ida Kuluk Ed Lopatin Ed Pollock Alice Prussin Jeff Rubin Steve Unger Michael Whitman Ami Zusman			Hanya Barth Bobbie Becker & Ellen Press Ann Biderman Marsha Blachman Gene Eichenbaum Shelley Eisenman & Julie Moed Anne Friedman Jeff Friedman Jerry Geffner Jonathan Goldman Tova Green Rafi Hoch Rose Katz Martha Moon & Judy Heiman Florence and Steve Nacamulli Perry Paker Jonathan Pannor Janis Portal Dona Rabinowitz Nathan Robinson Peter Rothaug Sylvia Weisenberg Randy Weiss Ron Wolberg Stephanie Wolper & Jane Greenfield Katharine Woodruff
<i>Zahav (Gold) (\$500 - \$999)</i>	<i>Arad (Bronze) (\$100 - \$249)</i>			
Michael Chertok Daniel Chesir Paul Cohen & Bob Guterman David Gellman Allan Gold Joe Hample Alex Ingersoll & David Stein Robin Leonard Ron Lezell Irene Ogus Steve Polsky Mike Rankin Arthur Slepian Susan Tubbesing Deborah Udin Mark Vogel & Bill Denebeim Larry Wexler Mike Zimmerman	Audrey Adelson Anonymous Mark Bowers Judith Cohen Leonie J. Darwin Jim Edlin & Eve Meyer			



**\$30,000**  
**Ma'ayan Gifts**  
**to Date**



## Contributions

**Sha'ar Zahav** welcomes all contributions of all sizes to mark any event and to add to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless otherwise requested.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

### *AIDS Fund*

**Neil Hart**, in memory of Victor Brumbach.  
**Susan Stahl**, in memory of Joseph Trachtenberg.

### *Bikkur Cholim Fund*

**Susan Stahl**, in honor of Mike Rankin.  
**Susan L. Feldman & Jeffrey J. Argentos**, with thanks to the Bikkur Cholim Committee.  
**Michele Sullivan**, in loving memory of Marion LeMeteyer.

## Naches

To **Carolyn Pines & Judy Schwartz** on their fifth anniversary.

To **Dan Bellm** on being awarded the 1995 diCastagnola Award for a work in progress by the Poetry Society of America.

To **Phyllis Mintzer** on her 70th birthday.

To **Nina Jo Smith** on her entrance into the Covenant.

To **Deborah Hoffmann** for the nomination of her film "Complaints of a Dutiful Daughter" for an Oscar as best documentary feature.

To **Frances Reid**, partner of Deborah Hoffmann, for the nomination of her film "Straight From the Heart" for an Oscar as best short documentary.

To **Sara Felder Noily** for "June Wedding" which played to sold-out audiences and received extensive media attention, including a feature story in the February 24 *Jewish Bulletin*.

To **Sylvia Weisenberg** on being elected to the Theatre Rhinoceros Board of Directors.

To **Ron Wilmot** on receiving the Cable Car Award of Merit for raising \$87,000 for AIDS charities through the Bike-a-thon over the last six years.

To **Judith Cohen**, who will conduct a Seder on the Olivia lesbian cruise to the Caribbean.

### *Chesir-Stein Music Fund*

**Susan L. Feldman**, in honor of Daniel Chesir.

**Arthur and Betty Comisar**, in honor of Jonathan Comisar.

### *General Fund*

**Lisa Niver**, in honor of Michael Latz's acceptance to Hebrew Union College.

**Judy Macks**, in memory of Ruth Macks.

**Ruth Mason**

**Nancy Sinkoff, Gary Dreiblat, Ezra & Miriam**, in loving memory of Stephen Mistler and in honor of the extraordinary courage, dignity and love of Richard Sinkoff.

**Phil Charney**, in memory of Barbara Frank.

**Allan Gold**, in memory of Newton Inlander.

**Dan Bellm**, in memory of Michael Bellm.

**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in memory of Mike Kozlowski.

**Mike Zimmerman**, in memory of Stephen Mistler.

**Eli Weinstein**, in memory of Stephen Mistler.

**Henry Carrey**, in memory of David Carrey and Fanny Post.

**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in memory of Lynne Yanofsky.

### *Kalis Inclusive Liturgy Fund*

**Rose Katz**, in honor of Nina Jo Smith's entrance into the Covenant.

### *House in Order Fund*

**David Weinstein**, in celebration of the Sheva B'rachot and prayers for a never-ending shared union for Marlene Stern and Edmond Sadan.

### *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

**Laurie Hauer & Grace Laurencin**, in memory of Kayla Hauer Given.

**Lolma Olson & Beth Reed**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman.

**Neil Hart**, in memory of Gabe Lebenson.

**Nina Jo Smith**, in honor of Phyllis Mintzer's 70th birthday.

Special thanks to **Jeff Forman & Paul Nemrow** for their donation of a new coffee urn which will make the lives of our oneg volunteers much easier.

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## Queer Alumni of NFTY

All queer alumni of the National Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) active in lesbian, gay, reproductive freedom, AIDS activism, and other social movements are asked to submit letters, essays, anecdotes, stories, prose pieces, poetry, photos, images, etc., on the connections between their time in the Reform Youth movement and their activism: what has it brought to their activism, Jewish identity, personhood, etc. Documents on Macintosh disk are appreciated. Please include the following information: The NFTY Region you were active in (NoFTY, NELFTY, SCFTY, WEFTY, LIFTY, etc.), the year you graduated from high school, and your primary movement involvement (e.g. radical faerie involved in AIDS activism and the environmental movement, dyke involved in the anti-domestic assault movement and peace and justice community, etc.). Send direct inquiries and correspondence to: Jon Nalley, 344 West 17th St. #5B, New York, NY 10011-5060, tel 212/242-9367, e-mail to chelseajon@aol.com.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Anniversaries

### April

- 3 Yehuda Hyman & Ikka Santos
- 10 Carolyn Pines & Judy Schwartz
- 13 Jane Boskoff Graeven & Mark Graeven
- 14 Rachel Bernstein & Susan Mizner
- 21 Rena Frantz & Ora Prochovnick
- 22 David Israels & William Salit
- 25 Steve Davis & Terry O'Hara
- 29 Colette Patt & Jennifer Lorvick

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Classifieds

**BREAST CANCER GROUP:** Imagery, Spirituality, Connection. Meets twice a month, fee negotiable. Syd Strong, Ph.D. 510/528-1235.

**PSYCHIATRIST POSITION AVAILABLE:** Position available about July 1 for General Psychiatrist at VA MHC in Oakland. Great pay and benefits. Community psychiatry on the cutting edge. Half block from 12th Street BART station. Contact Mike Rankin, M.D. 510/273-7331.

**HOUSECLEANING:** Home and business. Reliable, efficient, reasonable. Call Ikka (285-8309).

**GET AWAY** to beautiful Sonoma wine country. Week or weekend. Stunning 2BR 2BA wooded hillside home, vineyard and mountain views, pool, fireplace, BBQ, privacy. Sleeps six. 90 minutes north. Phone 587-5159.

**ALL THINGS MACINTOSH:** Quicken • Word • Excel • Hard disk tune-up • Computerize your business. Roslyn Fuerman, 510/526-1209.

## Environmental Impact of Peace Process

Miriam Gitlin, an attorney with the Ministry of the Environment in Israel, will speak on "Protecting the Promised Land: Pollution, People and Politics in Israel—The Environmental Impact of the Peace Process" at a lunchtime lecture sponsored by the New Israel Fund. Ms. Gitlin, a New Israel Fund Law Fellow, will speak at the Jewish Community Federation, 121 Steuart St., on Thursday, April 27 at noon. The New Israel Fund lecture series is free but advance reservations are requested. To RSVP, call the New Israel Fund (362-5565).



Mounds of Hamentashen. Photo by Michael Bettinger.

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Members of the congregation receive the *Forward*. For \$18/year, nonmembers will receive a *Forward* subscription.

#### Members of the Newsletter Committee

*Chair:* open

*Editorial Coordinator:* Batya Kalis (821-3855)

*Layout Coordinator:* Rose Katz

*Final Proofer:* Martha Moon

*Editing/Proofreading/Layout:* John Bachert, Alison Cohen, Stephan Howard, Richard Inlander, Robin Leonard, Mary McMillan, Dona Rabinowitz, Allyn Stern, Sam Thal

*Photography:* Michael Bettinger

*Advertising:* open

*Distribution:* Joe Hample, coordinator; Alison Cohen, Virginia Donohue, Leora Eisenberg, Sara Haber, Stan Kern, Mark Klaiman, Gordon Osser, Sam Thal, David Weinstein, Eli Weinstein, Sylvia Weisenberg

*Typesetting:* David Lester, Mouse Type Inc.

*Printing:* Genesis Printing & Graphics

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

## Synagogue Information

### Rabbi Yoel Kahn

#### Officers:

*President,* Tiela Chalmers (431-4312)  
*Administrative Vice President,*  
David Stein (863-4769)  
*Program Vice President,*  
Nathan Robinson  
*Treasurer,* Michael Zimmerman  
*Recorder,* Cheryl Bryan

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Diana Buchbinder  
Judith Cohen  
Jonathan Comisar  
Ron Lezell  
Ed Lopatin  
Carolyn Pines  
Ora Prochovnick  
Lane Schickler  
Susan Tubbesing

#### CSZ Staff:

*Office Manager,* Lea Salem  
*Program Coordinator,* Sydney Levy  
*Kadimah Principal,* Phyllis Mintzer  
*Rabbi Kahn's Asst.,* Amy Clark

#### Committee Chairs:

*Archives,* open  
*Bequests and Donations,* Richard Inlander  
*Bikkur Cholim,* David Shaber  
*Brotherhood,* Stephan Howard  
*Building,* Ellen Gierson  
*Bylaws,* Edward Pollock  
*Cemetery,* Richard Inlander  
*Children's Chavurah,* Jody Adelberg and Nancy Meyer  
*Cookbook Project,* Robin Leonard and Rose Katz  
*Dues,* Lisa Katz  
*Education,* Judith Cohen  
*Endowment Fund,* Richard Inlander

*Finance,* open  
*Fine Arts,* Alice Prussin  
*Fundraising,* Michael Zimmerman and Ellie Cohen  
*Gift Shop,* Jeff Rubin  
*Israel Chavurah,* Ron Lezell  
*Leadership Development,* Irene Ogus  
*Long-Range Planning,* Allan Gold  
*Membership,* Sara Haber and Larry Wexler  
*Newsletter,* open  
*Oneg,* Michael Whitman  
*Past Presidents Council,* Merry Luskin  
*Personnel,* David Stein  
*Public Relations,* Sharyn Saslafsky  
*Religious School,* Trudi Hauptman  
*Ritual,* Ora Prochovnick  
*Social Action,* Eloise Magenheim  
*Social Program,* by committee  
*Volunteer Coordinator,* Robin Leonard  
*Women's Chavurah,* Dona Rabinowitz

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.*

**Office Hours:** Monday–Friday from 9 am to 3 pm. Please call the synagogue office at 861-6932.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 861-6938.

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav are ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have the rabbi or a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member** of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Robin Leonard, Allyce Kimerling, liaisons) and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Lane Schickler, liaison).

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

**Gift Shop Hours:** Fridays, 7:30–8:05 pm.

**Library Hours:** Open during office hours, and 30 minutes before and after Friday night services.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

**Sha'ar Zahav Committees always need more volunteers.  
Call volunteer coordinator, Robin Leonard, 386-7876**



<b>1</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>1 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>10:30 am, Shabbat service, Rabbi Kahn, Jonathan Comisar, Rodef Shalom, Bat Mitzvah Rebecca Docters-Cohen</li> </ul>	<b>8</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>8 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30 am, K-2 Kids Pesach Program</li> </ul>	<b>16</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>16 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>23 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11 am, Women's chavurah outing to Jewish Museum followed by brunch</li> </ul>
<b>2</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>2 Nisan</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>9 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30 am, Preschool Pesach, oneg room.</li> <li>4 pm, Klezmer Rehearsal</li> </ul>	<b>17</b> <b>Monday</b> <b>17 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 pm, Healing Service</li> <li>7 pm, Newsletter proofreading/layout</li> </ul>	<b>24</b> <b>Monday</b> <b>24 Nisan</b>
<b>3</b> <b>Monday</b> <b>3 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 pm, Healing Service</li> <li>6:30 pm, Dues Committee</li> </ul>	<b>10</b> <b>Monday</b> <b>10 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting</li> </ul>	<b>18</b> <b>Tuesday</b> <b>18 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Tuesday</b> <b>25 Nisan</b>
<b>4</b> <b>Tuesday</b> <b>4 Nisan</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Tuesday</b> <b>11 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm, Membership Committee</li> </ul>	<b>19</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>19 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15 pm, Modern Jewish Philosophies</li> <li>8:30 pm, Introduction to Prayerbook Hebrew 1B</li> </ul>	<b>26</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>26 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15 pm, Modern Jewish Philosophies</li> <li>8:30 pm, Introduction to Prayerbook Hebrew 1B</li> </ul>
<b>5</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>5 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15 pm, Modern Jewish Philosophies</li> <li>8:30 pm, Introduction to Prayerbook Hebrew 1B</li> </ul>	<b>12</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>12 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm, Newsletter editing</li> <li>7:15 pm, Modern Jewish Philosophies</li> <li>8:30 pm, Introduction to Prayerbook Hebrew 1B</li> </ul>	<b>20</b> <b>Thursday</b> <b>20 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm, Bikkur Cholim</li> </ul>	<b>27</b> <b>Thursday</b> <b>27 Nisan</b> Yom HaShoah <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm, Ritual Committee</li> <li>7 pm, Newsletter distribution</li> </ul>
<b>6</b> <b>Thursday</b> <b>6 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm, 18/10 meeting in library</li> <li>7:30 pm, Children's Education meeting at Trudi's</li> </ul>	<b>13</b> <b>Thursday</b> <b>13 Nisan</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Friday</b> <b>21 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East Bay services</li> <li>8:15 pm, Shabbat service, Rabbi Kahn &amp; Jonathan Comisar</li> </ul>	<b>28</b> <b>Friday</b> <b>28 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm, Tot &amp; Preschool Shabbat</li> <li>8:15 pm, Shabbat service, Rabbi Kahn &amp; Josh Lee</li> </ul>
<b>7</b> <b>Friday</b> <b>7 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:15 pm, Shabbat service, Jody Reiss &amp; Neil Grungras, Rabbi Kahn</li> </ul>	<b>14</b> <b>Friday</b> <b>14 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach first Seder</b> No Friday evening service	<b>22</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>22 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Kadimah, Passover recess</li> <li>12:30 pm, Social Action lunch/meeting</li> <li>3:30 pm, Yizkor, Frank Yellin &amp; Batya Kalis</li> <li>4:30 pm, Torah study</li> </ul>	<b>29</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>29 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 am, Kadimah</li> </ul>
<b>8</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>8 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>10:30 am, Shabbat service, Rabbi Kahn &amp; Steve Weitz, Bar Mitzvah of Mark Bowers</li> </ul>	<b>15</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>15 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach</b> No Kadimah <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30 am, Shabbat service, Rabbi Kahn</li> <li>5:30 pm, Congregational Seder, Fort Mason</li> </ul>	<b>30</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>30 Nisan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30 am, Kaiser Brunch</li> </ul>	

**Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.**

## MAY FORWARD DEADLINES

### FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, APRIL 3

To place a display ad or to place a classified ad, call the office.

### FOR ARTICLES MONDAY, APRIL 10

All articles should be 200 words or less except with special advance permission from the editorial coordinator. Please submit it both on 3 1/2-inch disk and hard copy on paper *double spaced*. Write "Attn. Gaily Forward" on top and mail to CSZ. *No deadline extensions without advance permission from the editorial coordinator (821-3855) or Kalis@out.org.*

## East Bay Services

- 4/21 Judy Schwartz & Carolyn Pines, 2821 55th Ave., Oakland, 510/532-9661
- 5/19 Ida & Evan Kuluk and Susan Spott, 4042 Maple Ave., Oakland, 510/530-4673
- 6/16 Lawney Baldwin & Tony Vernola, 2224 Spaulding Ave., Berkeley, 510/540-0846

Please join us for dinner at a nearby restaurant. For details call Shelley Spiro, 510/482-5967.



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